

Translation

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY
PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY
(Chapter II of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference P802685/WO/1	FOR FURTHER ACTION See Form PCT/IPEA/416	
International application No. PCT/EP2004/000185	International filing date (day/month/year) 14.01.2004	Priority date (day/month/year) 26.02.2003
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC G09B 9/04		
Applicant DAIMLERCHRYSLER AG		

1. This report is the international preliminary examination report, established by this International Preliminary Examining Authority under Article 35 and transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.
2. This REPORT consists of a total of 7 sheets, including this cover sheet.
3. This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, comprising:
 - a. (sent to the applicant and to the International Bureau) a total of _____ sheets, as follows:
 - sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications authorized by this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions).
 - sheets which supersede earlier sheets, but which this Authority considers contain an amendment that goes beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed, as indicated in item 4 of Box No. I and the Supplemental Box.
 - b. (sent to the International Bureau only) a total of (indicate type and number of electronic carrier(s))
_____, containing a sequence listing and/or tables related thereto, in computer readable form only, as indicated in the Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing (see Section 802 of the Administrative Instructions).
4. This report contains indications relating to the following items:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Box No. I	Basis of the report
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. II	Priority
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. III	Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. IV	Lack of unity of invention
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Box No. V	Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. VI	Certain documents cited
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Box No. VII	Certain defects in the international application
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Box No. VIII	Certain observations on the international application

Date of submission of the demand	Date of completion of this report
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/	Authorized officer
Facsimile No.	Telephone No.

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International application No.

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Box No. I Basis of the report

1. With regard to the language, this report is based on the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

This report is based on translations from the original language into the following language _____, which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of:

international search (Rule 12.3 and 23.1(b))
 publication of the international application (Rule 12.4)
 international preliminary examination (Rule 55.2 and/or 55.3)

2. With regard to the elements of the international application, this report is based on (replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report):

the international application as originally filed/furnished
 the description:
 pages 1-13 as originally filed/furnished
 pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____
 pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____

the claims:
 nos. 1-12 as originally filed/furnished
 nos.* _____ as amended (together with any statement) under Article 19
 nos.* _____ received by this Authority on _____
 nos.* _____ received by this Authority on _____

the drawings:
 sheets 1/4 - 4/4 as originally filed/furnished
 sheets* _____ received by this Authority on _____
 sheets* _____ received by this Authority on _____

a sequence listing and/or any related table(s) – see Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing.

3. The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

the description, pages _____
 the claims, nos. _____
 the drawings, sheets/figs _____
 the sequence listing (specify): _____
 any table(s) related to sequence listing (specify): _____

4. This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments annexed to this report and listed below had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).

the description, pages _____
 the claims, nos. _____
 the drawings, sheets/figs _____
 the sequence listing (specify): _____
 any table(s) related to sequence listing (specify): _____

* If item 4 applies, some or all of those sheets may be marked "superseded."

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Box No. V	Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement	
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1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Claims	1-12	YES
	Claims		NO

Inventive step (IS)	Claims	1-12	YES
	Claims		NO

Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	1-12	YES
	Claims		NO

2. Citations and explanations (Rule 70.7)

1. Reference is made to the following document:

D1: GB-A-2 378 687 (TRY SOME LTD), 19 February 2003
(2003-02-19)

2. The invention relates to a linear displacement system, more particularly as a part of a motion unit for a driving simulator.
3. Document D1 is considered to be the prior art closest to the claimed linear displacement system.
4. D1 discloses an arrangement for a driving simulator. The linear displacement system of D1 has a main carriage (2) which, together with a first (X) horizontal displacement unit (9, 10), is supported and guided by a second (Y) horizontal axis (5, 6, 7, 8).
5. The subject matter of claim 1 of the present application differs from the linear displacement system of D1 in that the main carriage is not freely slidable on a level floor surface, and also in that, accordingly, the motor carriage is freely slidable on a level floor surface.

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5. Hence the problem addressed by the present invention is that of designing a linear displacement system so as to reduce the weight load on the guide frame without losing the high anti-tilt characteristic of the main carriage or reducing the stability of the system as a whole.
6. The invention solves the problem by way of the aforementioned distinguishing features. The claimed construction separates the function of supporting the main carriage (which is now performed by the floor surface) from the function of guiding the main carriage (which is assumed by the horizontal displacement device or motor carriage). This reduces the weight load on the guide frame.
7. There is nothing in D1 to suggest a main carriage or motor carriage that is freely slidable on a level floor surface. On the contrary, the main carriage (2) in D1 is mounted on a rocker mechanism (11, 12, 13, 14), which is in turn mounted on rails (5, 6, 7, 8), and the motor carriage is also mounted on the rails (5, 6, 7, 8). There is no mention in D1 of the mass problem in a driving simulator motion system.

In the European phase of the procedure the unpublished patent application 101 50 382.2-35 cited in the present application and the corresponding document EP 1 435 082 can only be used as prior art for the purposes of EPC Article 54(3) and (4). The subject matter of claim 1 of the present application differs from that of these documents by virtue of the features specified in the

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characterising part of claim 1 and is therefore novel over the said documents.

8. The linear displacement system according to independent claim 1 can therefore be considered novel and inventive (PCT Article 33(2) and (3)).

9. The dependent claims define embodiments of the linear displacement system according to independent claim 1 and can therefore also be considered novel and inventive (PCT Article 33(2) and (3)).

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Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application

The following defects in the form or contents of the international application have been noted:

10. The only prior art document cited in the description is "unpublished patent application 101 50 382.2-35". A reference to the published document EP 1 435 082 would have been more appropriate (PCT Rule 5.1(a)(ii)).

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Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application

The following observations on the clarity of the claims, description, and drawings or on the question whether the claims are fully supported by the description, are made:

11. The expression "more particularly" in claim 1 is regarded as purely optional, and leaves the reader in doubt as to the scope of the technical feature referred to. The claimed subject matter is therefore not clearly defined (PCT Article 6).